Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the following paragraph beginning at page 9, line 17:

In still other embodiments, the systems and methods described herein permit the playback of a lighting sequence to be influenced by external inputs during performance such as any of the examples of cues described above. For example, a lighting sequence or effect may be programmed to start upon receipt of a cue or trigger signal, a sequence or effect may take precedence if a cue or trigger signal is received, a sequence or effect may be designated to repeat or continue until a cue or trigger signal is received, etc. Thus, instead of assigning a discrete start time to an effect or sequence, a user may instead designate that effect or sequence to begin when a certain stimulus is received. Furthermore, during creation, a user may designate two or more effects for overlapping or concurrent time periods and assign the effects different priorities or conditions to determine which effect is executed upon playback. In yet another embodiment, a user may link a parameter for an effect to an external input (e.g., any of the types of inputs described above, including analog, digital or manual inputs) such that the color, speed, or other attribute of an effect may depend on a signal from an external device, measuring, for example, volume, brightness, temperature, pitch, inclination, wave length, or any other appropriate condition. Thus, the selection of a lighting sequence, the selection of an effect, or the selection of a parameter may be determined or influenced by input from an external source, such as a user, chronometer, device, or sensor. Of course, the types of external stimuli, cues and triggers described above, as well as the changes in a lighting effect or parameter influenced thereby, are provided merely for illustrative purposes, as numerous other variations are possible. In the embodiment of Fig. 1, an exemplary external device 800 is connected to lighting controller 30 to illustrate such external inputs. Other embodiments can include more than one external device.

Please amend the following paragraph beginning at page 20, line 20:

In one embodiment, the playback device 31 may include an external interface 650 whereby the playback device 31 can receive external signals from one or more external devices, such as external device 800, useful for impacting (e.g., modifying) the execution or output of one

or more stored lighting sequences 20. For example, the external interface 650 may include a user interface, which may in turn include switches, buttons, dials, sliders, a console, a keyboard, a speech recognition system, or any other device, such as a sensor, whereby a command or signal can be provided to the playback device 31 to otherwise influence the execution or output of the lighting sequence 20. The external devices may be coupled to the playback device 31 via any suitable technique, including a direct wire connection or via RF or some other type of wireless connection. The manner in which an external command or signal can influence execution or output of the lighting sequence 20 can be accomplished in any of numerous ways, as the present invention is not limited to any particular implementation. In the illustrative embodiment shown in Figure 6, the playback device 31 is provided with a processor 651 that receives the output of the storage device 620, and can act thereon to influence the played back output of the lighting sequence 20 stored within the storage device 620. In the embodiment shown, the external interface 650 is directly coupled to the processor 651, such that the processor can examine any external signals and commands and make decisions based thereon to influence the played back output of the lighting sequence 20. As mentioned elsewhere herein, there are numerous types of external commands, cues and signals that can be provided and also numerous ways in which they can influence the execution of a lighting sequence, such that the present invention is not limited to any particular commands, cues or signals, nor any particular manner of influencing the playback of a lighting sequence.

Please amend the following paragraphs beginning at page 26, line 28:

In one embodiment of the playback device 1000, the storage device 620 stores multiple lighting programs, in much the same manner as discussed above in connection with some embodiments of the playback device 31 in Fig. 6. In accordance with this embodiment, a first external interface 1002 is provided to receive an externally generated signal from one or more external devices, such as external device 800, to select which lighting program stored within the storage device 620 is to be played back by the playback device 1000. The first external interface 1002 is compatible with any of numerous types of user interfaces to enable selection of a particular lighting program to be played back. For example, in accordance with one illustrative

embodiment of the present invention, a push button, toggle switch or other type of device can be used that when activated by the user, causes the processor 651 to select a next lighting program for playback, so that by repeatedly toggling the input device, a user can step through all of the lighting programs stored in the storage device 620 to select a desired program for execution.

In the embodiment shown in Fig. 7, the playback device 1000 further includes a second external interface 1004 that is compatible with another user interface to enable the user to vary a parameter of a lighting program being played back by the playback device 1000. The parameter being varied can apply to all of the lighting effects in a lighting program (e.g., can influence the playback speed or intensity of an entire lighting program being played back) or can relate to only a subset (including only a single effect) of the lighting effects. Any of numerous types of lighting effect or parameter changes can be accomplished, as described above in connection with other embodiments of the present invention. Similarly, the user interface compatible with the second external interface 1004 can take any of numerous forms, as this embodiment of the present invention is not limited to the use of any particular type of interface. For example, in one embodiment of the present invention the user interface may be capable of generating a plurality of different signals from one or more external devices, such as external device 800, which can be used to vary a parameter of the lighting program being played back, such as the playback speed, intensity of illumination, color of a particular portion of a lighting program (including adjustments in hue, saturation and/or intensity) or any other parameter. For example, the second external interface may provide a variable digital signal to the processor 651 depending on the setting or position of the user interface. Alternatively, the user interface may supply an analog signal to the second external interface 1004, which can then convert the analog signal to a digital signal for communication to the processor 651.